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School Activities

The Extra Curricular Magazine

for-

School Executives
Club Advisors
Class Sponsors
Coaches
Student Leaders

PUBLISHED BY THE

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES PUBLISHING CO.

1212 West 13th Street TOPEKA, KANSAS

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SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

The Extra Curricular Magazine

PUBLISHED MONTHLY
DURING THE SCHOOL TERM BY

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES PUBLISHING CO.

1212 West 13th St., Topeka, Kansas

C. R. VAN NICE, EDITOR

R. G. GROSS, BUSINESS MANAGER

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As the Editor Sees It—

Students should be prepared for the organization of a club or other student group. The election of officers is not the first essential step in forming an organization. Anything is apt to happen in an extemporaneous, haphazard assemblage except the best possible action. Advice of the sponsor, discussion among students, and committee action are not to be omitted. Effective organizations do not just happen, and advance caucuses are more often good than bad.

The purpose of a school club should be

definite and set forth in a preamble to its constitution. A group with such a name as Self Improvement Club faces the great danger of failure that goes with too broad a purpose, an implied aim, and no specific program.

I should like to suggest another school club. I might have to call it a salesmanship club. Buymanship, if there were such a word, would be a better name for it. Why not teach defensive play as well as offensive play in preparing students for the big game of mak-

ing a living? Whether you and I interview a caller, open a magazine, turn on the radio, or view the landscape from our windows, we may except to meet with some plan or device of salesmanshipsomething intended to break down sales resistance. What agency is providing for a possible need for building up sales resistance? Why not the opportunity of a club bent on discovering, recognizing, and understanding the tactics employed by Such study would give stusalesmen? dents some measure of business judgment with which to solve the most real and most certain problems of life in our buying and selling society. Their text might be, "Your Money's Worth"—a book on the

consumer's dollar, by Stuart Chase and F. J. Schlink, published by Macmillan.

Freshmen should be prepared for their initiation, not with padding but by instructions. Many a student body has given way to some show of mob spirit, because some smart aleck among the freshmen failed to keep within the passive role planned for him.

Here is a club idea that appeals to me. It is called the Sphinx club from the fact that its members are not permitted to

laugh at any time or for any cause during the meetings. A penalty is exacted of anyone who dares even to smile. At first thought, one is distressed at the idea. But think of the advantages—no derisive laughter, no nervous laughter, no apologetic laughter. I can imagine the effectiveness of this club's work, and I am told that the members enjoy it, too.

laugh at any ti

NEXT MONTH And in Subsequent Issues:

High School Dramatics—Curricular and Extra Curricular, by Vera Lighthall.

Social Life in High School, by Jacob G. Franz.

The Boy with the Bagpipe—a play in one act, by Marilouise Metcalfe Isom.

In Case of a Tie—a play in one act, by Anna Manley Galt.

Camera—a play in one act, by Clara Widess.

Other Non-Royalty Plays, Stunts and Monologs.

Feature Articles in the Field of Extra Curricular Activities.

Money Making Plans, and Many Other Attractions. The extra-curricular activities of a student should be voluntary activities. That is a fundamental rule that is

easy to accept but not always easy to remember. School executives, marked by the curriculum rigidity of the generation in which they received their high school education, drift easily into the practice of requiring, rather than permitting, extra-curricular work.

There is no necessity for the election of officers of student organizations by plurality vote. The time required to eliminate candidates until a majority is secured can not be spent to better purpose. The person who is elected to an office should be able to take up its duties, knowing that he has the confidence and support of more than half the members.

HOW I ATTACK A HOMEROOM.

ROBERT E. WOODWARD

To my mind, the homeroom as it is generally found in the secondary school of today is the basis of the spirit of the school. It is the natural habitat of civic development, individual guidance, personal inspiration, and other highly prized game. If you would bag these, watch your homeroom organization as a hunter watches a water hole.

The title of these words is not "How You Should Attack a Homeroom"; as an experimenter, I have not reached that stage in the quest of truth. These are merely some conclusions and suggestions out of one teacher's groping experience, submitted with the hope that they may be

of practical help to others.

Let me begin with the discouraging report that homeroom organization takes work and lots of it; work in the form of thought, of conferences, of some extra paper work. The work begins the minute you receive the list of your prospective You must know your pupils charges. and the sooner you begin to study them, the better. Their mere names may tell you something, but always remember that Leon Czolgosz or Scarvak Capone may turn out to be your most dependable worker. As soon as possible consult every source of information available-record cards, former teachers-and, as a homeroom teacher, look especially for real interests, usually (mark the spot!) outside the curriculum.

Upon meeting your companions face to face, your knowledge accelerates, but it must be conscious and systematic to be full. Individual conferences, home visits where possible, and close observation of your pupils' association with each other are the surest roads to knowledge.

The immediate purpose of knowing your pupils is to organize them. A good homeroom organization will not generally flourish spontaneously. Occasionally a leader will come along who makes a teacher almost unnecessary, but he is as rare as a satisfactory marking system. Outstanding leaders, more often than than not, make the teacher more necessary than usual.

On the other hand, a good homeroom organization cannot be imposed by the teacher from above. The teacher must be ready to do all or most of the organizing, but should avoid the appearance of so do-

ing. If he (or, of course, she) talks over his plans with officers or individuals likely to be interested, asks their advice, and enlists their co-operation, he is doing a better job for himself and for them than if he announces without preparation to his group, "We are going to do this," or even, "Let's do this." He should maintain as much as possible the role of a lay member of the group. When such tactics are used, pupils will do the maximum organizing of which they are capable and will readily accept the teacher's organizing, frequently thinking they have done it themselves.

The axiom of homeroom organization that has stood the test of time is that everybody must have something to do. With thirty-five members or more, this is not always the easiest thing to arrange. There will always be a few who are able and willing to do all there is to be done. There will always be a few who seem unable or unwilling to do anything. Duties must be divided into the simplest elements so that there will be enough offices and committees to go around. They must be delegated with some care. Having the president ask for volunteers for certain duties is enlightening and valuable—when it works. The member who has no responsibility will become either indifferent or troublesome.

A system of objective credits for such work, leading to a mark in citizenship or something of the kind, undoubtedly stimulates many boys and girls even in the higher grades, but such a system, if harped on and depended upon too heavily, will soon defeat the purpose for which it was instituted. The real reward should be the satisfaction of a purposeful duty performed to the satisfaction and approval of the group: an ideal not nearly so difficult to achieve as it sounds.

This spirit of working for the group is much easier to talk about than to instill. It means that a group spirit must be created, and that quickly. Mere organization will never do it. Organization is the structure, the clay; something must be

breathed into it to give it life.

The most available and inexpensive catalytic to perform this miracle is the breath of praise. No matter how turbulent, how indifferent, or how colorless a group may be, there is always something commendable about it, and the wise homeroom teacher will hammer at it as at a wedge. In the first crucial weeks, praise should be used almost exclusively. Gen-

eral group deficiencies should be treated as due to temporary defects in organization; criticism and punishment should be

individual and generally private.

But praise must have something to feed upon. One cannot be continuously enthusiastic about the fact that there are more red-haired boys in the group than in any other group in school. Be alert to discover at the earliest possible moment some real success the group has had in school. If necessary, arrange one. Ask other teachers for compliments for your class until you find one who will give you one. Plan early to have your class the first one-hundred-per-cent members of the A. A. or subscribers to the school paper, so that you can prove to them that they have the capacity for being the outstanding homeroom class in the school if they just try.

I can hear objections (I have heard them before) that too much praise may produce a conceited group of braggarts, a clique of snobs. I doubt that this can ever become serious where, as is usually the case, other homerooms are about equally able to hold their own. Adolescent boys and girls are not so blind as to think your words of enthusiasm and praise are the whole story, but they like to hear them nevertheless, and will be anxious to keep you fooled into thinking they are the best class even if they know they can't convince the rest of the school. Of course, if you are so unfortunate as to have all the athletic, all the scholastic, all the literary, dramatic, business, musical, social, and political leaders, you need a somewhat different technique.

The wisest administrator will see to it that too much ability is not concentrated in one group. Homogeneous grouping according to mental age or intelligence quotient tends to do this, but "lower" groups just as frequently develop leaders in athletic, managerial, and musical activities. I have seen such a group, devoid of any exceptional individual talents, conceded to be the best group in the school—I wish I

could say it was my group.

After experience with various methods of grouping for homerooms—homogeneous grouping, both with and without sex grouping, and random (alphabetical) grouping—I believe that random grouping, with boys and girls mixed nearly equally, is best for the school, the teacher, and above all the pupil. Under this system, purely social functions-picnics, parties, dances-do not go off so well, but they can easily be dispensed with and a valuable democratization can be effected. not otherwise possible. Note that I am referring here to homeroom grouping, not to grouping for instructional purposes.

In developing homeroom spirit, two dangers must be guarded against. boosting one's own group, pupils-and teacher-are susceptible to a tendency to criticize or ridicule other groups, with or without basis. The trouble is that goodnatured knocking too easily becomes illnatured. The evils of this kind of competition are obvious and are to be feared more than any other one thing. A second danger is that the interest of the group may in some other way become contrary to the interest of the school. Setting a precedent for elaborate expenditure for parties, photographs, or athletic uniforms may be an example of this. It should always be kept before the class that the fundamental aim of the group is a better school.

Up to this point, you have baited your trap and coaxed your quarry into it. Perhaps it would be better for me to swap metaphors in midstream and say that you have sown your seed, cultivated your ground, and watched sun and rain ripen your crop. You are ready for the harvest. You are ready to begin to do properly that for which all this preparation has been laid: to guide your pupils in the full light of your knowledge of them and their confidence in you. How much easier it is to smooth out difficulties in a happy. understanding family! The problems may be hard ones, but they have at least been robbed of some of their complexity and vagueness.

I have no set procedure for handling They arise sometimes such difficulties. Alertness, symwhen least expected. pathy, and the earnest application of intelligence are, of course, the general answers to a question the details of which lie outside the scope of this paper.

Shall we summarize in four steps? Know: Study your individuals.

Organize: Get all individuals painlessly tied in.

Inspire: Develop group pride. Guide: Help adjust the individual to

his future.

Steps? In a sense, yes; but don't stop studying after you have organized and don't wait until your knowledge and organization are letter perfect before beginning to inspire and guide. — Junior-Senior H. S. Clearing House.

EXPOSURE OF THE PIKE OR MIDWAY.

Whether or not the school is given a day off for the county fair, students will be attracted to the color, lights, and din of the "midway." There many of them will try their luck at wheels of fortune; throw balls at stuffed dolls and cats and at imitation milk bottles; toss rings and hoops at canes, knives, and other novelties; pitch balls at buckets and jars; fling darts at tags, targets, and star-shaped stickers; play beano and corno games; drop tin discs on painted spots; roll numbered balls down incline planes; hook celluloid ducks or fish out of miniature ponds; shoot corks at showy prizes; swing a ball at a ten-pin; fish for prizes in an assortment or coins and novelties messed over by an "Erie digger"; and perhaps try to pick the walnut shell the pea is under. They wonder why they never win but hope that their "gambling" may be concealed from parents and teachers. Then they will come back and for another school year prepare to "meet life situa-While schools have dealt with generalities and abstractions relative to character, thrift, and citizenship, generation after generation has had to learn (or did they learn?) from experience that you can not beat a fakir at his own game.

Why not use the fair or street carnival as a basis for school work? The psychology class will note and explain the patter of the sharper. The mathematics classes will find it interesting to compute the cost of a blanket as bought through a device that depends upon the law of averages for its profit. The class in foods will be impressed with the results of figures on the cost of "candy floss." The physics class will find no end to the study of the "gimmicks" with which men of keen, inventive minds are constantly and by diverse methods trying to deceive and fleece the public.

Every graft of the fakir has its more or less obvious explanation. To cover the enormous overhead costs gross profits must be figured in hundreds of per cent. But for the stress and excitement of the atmosphere about the midway, no one would be deceived. Generally speaking, all devices may be grouped under three heads. One for its success depends upon the "gimmick," a hidden device by which the operator controls the winning and losing of his concession. Another wins

from a simple application of the law of averages. The third wins by use of showy but worthless premiums. Some fakirs

employ all three methods.

But it would be a mistake to limit these profitable and interesting studies to scattered individuals or classes. If some club or homeroom will delegate itself to expose the grafts of the midway, it will find ample material for a fascinating and profitable assembly program. A committee bent on finding out why the balls can be made to stay in or bounce out of the wooden buckets at the will of the operator will come back prepared to tell how that operator by leaning inconspicuously against a post is able to shift a deadening block against or away from the bottom of the bucket. They will be able to describe the operations of the confederate who appears on the scene when a crowd has gathered and wins consistently. This committee can even demonstrate how the "pea," which is really a ball of gelatin, can be shifted by a skilful operator of the shell game. They will discover and explain the "gimmick" by which the operator of a spindle wheel, or his confederate, may put a brake on the wheel by pressure on the edge of the table or by knee pressure against a special device for stopping the wheel. They will show how the big stuffed cat can be knocked off the table with a baseball only when the operator has placed it far enough back on the table so that when it falls from being hit by the ball its center of gravity is beyond the edge of the table. Similarly will this committee be able to expose each graft in its turn.

By this type of assembly program perhaps something can be added to the educational value of the county fair.

APPRECIATION.

"I can't help believing that one glance at your magazine should be enough to make any teacher recognize its worth and want it. There isn't a periodical in our school that gets more thumb prints on it in a month."

LIBRARIAN OF A MIDDLE WEST UNIVERSITY.

Why not send SCHOOL ACTIVITIES to your board of education? Can you think of a better way to develop in that body an interest in your extra curricular program?

ONE DOLLAR DOWN.

A modern comedy in one act. VERA HAMILL-HAFER.

CHARACTERS.

Mrs. Ross Cordovan, a large, fairly handsome woman, whose main occupation is "keeping up with the Jones'."

Betty Lou, her younger daughter of eigh-

teen.

Mona, her older daughter of twenty-two. Phil, her twenty-year-old son.

Ross Cordovan, her middle-aged husband. John Carson, a young college professor, engaged to marry Mona.

SCENE.

The scene of this play takes place in the living-room of the Cordovan home. The Cordovans are just middle class people, trying to make an impression on their high-living neighbors who are just as middle class. In the room are a beautiful new cabinet radio; an expensive new floor-lamp; and a large new overstuffed chair; which make a rather ridiculous contrast with slightly faded curtains, a worn rug, and a large oak library table. Other chairs and furnishings are old.

A door left opens outside, door right goes to the kitchen, curtained double door rear leads to other parts of the house and upstairs. A telephone, stand and chair are left (down from the door), library table is down center with straight chair, the new chair is up right, old sofa is up left. Floor-lamp stands back of the new chair. The radio is right center, a rock-

ing chair down right.

(As the curtain rises, Mrs. Cordovan is discovered talking excitedly to her daughter, Betty Lou. Mrs. Cordovan is wearing a becoming street dress, over which is tied an embroidered apron. She is standing extreme left, surveying the room, while Betty Lou is sprawled out in the rocker at the right, reading a magazine. Betty Lou, a handsome young miss, is dressed in smart sport togs, with a bright hat pushed back on her head. She looks as if she were always dressed ready to be off somewhere at a moment's notice.)

TIME.

Early Saturday afternoon.

MRS. CORDOVAN: Well, Betty, what do you think of the improvement? I believe it looks pretty swell, don't you?

BETTY LOU (without looking up): Uhhumh.

MRS. CORDOVAN: Now you didn't even look! Don't you think this radio is a lot better than Beam's? I wouldn't look at anything but a brand new one, and I wanted the very best! When I think of this tea I'm giving tomorrow for Count Von Rue—Conrad, he told me to call him—I get so nervous, I can't tell whether things are going to be all right or not!

BETTY LOU (continuing reading): Oh, Mom, he won't see anybody but me, anyway. Why worry about the furniture! Say, (looks up at last) I'll have to have a new dress! I meant to tell you before. I spilled chocolate soda all over my good one, last night. Made me so mad! All

Bill's fault, too.

MRS. CORDOVAN (importantly): Well, I thought about our dresses! I went down early this morning and had two sent out on approval. I got the swellest dresses imaginable for only two dollars down! Just imagine that! I bought me a beauty! Conrad won't know I have a daughter, let alone see her, when he once glimpses me in that dress!

BETTY LOU: Where did you get this

chair and floor lamp?

MRS. CORDOVAN: Waking up, are you? That's what I've been trying to tell you for the last ten minutes. I went into Griggs Furniture Store, yesterday afternoon, after seeing about having the radio sent out on trial, and when I found these two pieces, I just knew I had to have them. And just think! (Mrs. Cordovan sits, impressively, on the chair by the telephone.) They were only a dollar down and a dollar a week, apiece! Wasn't that a bargain?

BETTY LOU: How many's coming to

your tea, besides "Conrad"?

MRS. CORDOVAN: I invited just fourteen ladies. I didn't ask Mrs. Beam. She just doesn't have any culture about her, anyway. All she can talk about is Richard, and his work at the garage, and how well he is doing! She makes me sick!

(The door left opens and Mona enters. She is a dark-haired, serious minded girl who has beeen shouldering most of the family's financial responsibilities for the last four years. She has a rare quality of beauty, however, with strong character lines about her face, and one sees instantly that she never has been the flapper type of her younger sister. She is wearing a neat, plain street dress, hat and gloves to match. Her sensible oxfords contrast noticeably with her sister's spike-

heeled pumps. She is carrying a suit box, which she lays on the table.)

Mrs. Cordovan: Hello, Mona, dear. Oh, have the dresses come? (Rises.)

Mona: I don't know what this is. The delivery boy from Mace's stopped here as I was coming in and gave it to me. Who's been buying more dresses, now?

MRS. CORDOVAN (soothingly): Now, Mona, don't say anything! You know if I am going to give this tea tomorrow afternoon, Betty and I must have something to wear. Anyway, we don't have to pay for them right away. The sales girl said we could pay two dollars a month on them, and you know if we can't afford two dollars a month, we had better go to the poorhouse!

MONA (worriedly): That's where we're

headed, now.

n

e

(Betty Lou has gone over to the table

and is opening the box.)

MRS. CORDOVAN: Well, Mona, you won't need to pay for this! Dad said yesterday, he thought he would get a raise this week, and if he does, he can help me out. I suppose you would rather see your mother in rags than let her have a new dress once in a while!

(Betty Lou takes the dresses out and holds them up. They are both very smart and modish, but unmistakably for evening

wear.)

BETTY LOU (exclaiming): Mother! Evening dresses! Of all things to wear to a Sunday afternoon tea! Oh, you're a good one!

MRS. CORDOVAN (anxiously): Aren't they all right? Oh, dear! I never do anything right around this family! Why, they're such pretty dresses, who'll think whether they are for afternoon or not?

BETTY LOU (disgustedly): Of course they will! Mother, I'm disgusted with you! The idea! Next time, don't get in such a hurry. Let me pick out my own, anyway. (Then, changing her tone to one of interest) Gee, this is cute, though! (Holds the smaller dress up to her and steps out to adimre herself.) I guess I can find plenty of places to wear it, all right! But I'll have to hurry down and get me another before the shops close. (Folds the dresses and replaces them in the box.)

Mona (who has been regarding her sister disapprovingly): Betty Lou Cordovan! Are you crazy? You can't even afford one dress! What are you talking of another one for?

BETTY LOU (turning to her mother): Mother, can't I? You know I'm only young once! Please! (It is very evident that she has been spoiled by having her own way.)

Mrs. Cordovan (hesitatingly): Well, I don't know. Maybe you'd better ask your father. If he has the money, he'll

probably let you have it.

BETTY LOU (making a face at her sister): See there, smarty? (She turns to the mirror over the radio, pushes down her hat and skips to the door at the left where she pauses and looks back.) Dad ought to be coming home by now, anyway. This is Saturday, and he gets off early. (Exits, whistling a popular tune.)

Mona (sitting in the chair at the table and removing her hat): Mother, I get so angry at you! You simply spoil Betty Lou to death! Why can't she find a job and go to work? I was teaching my first school and helping to support the family

when I was eighteen!

MRS. CORDOVAN (picking up Betty's magazine from the floor and straightening the newspapers on the table): Now, Mona, don't get so worked up. What could Betty find to do? You know she failed her teacher's examination this spring. (Sits down right.) Anyway, she is just a baby. I couldn't have her working away from home. She isn't old enough.

Mona (about to cry): Well, it isn't right! Here I teach year after year, trying to help you folks on your feet, and you just go deeper in debt every day: (Sees radio, chair and floor lamp for the first time.) Mother! Where did you get

these things?

MRS. CORDOVAN (defensively): Now, you needn't talk like that! You won't have to pay for them. The radio is just installed on approval, so it would be here for the tea tomorrow, and this lamp and chair were such bargains, I just couldn't pass them up. I only had to pay a dollar down on each of them, and Dad will pay the installments.

Mona: Yes, and that means he won't have enough to pay the grocery bill and I'll have to pay that to save my credit in

this town!

Mrs. Cordovan: Sh-h-h! Not so loud. Mrs. Beam will hear every word we say. By the way, John called awhile ago.

Mona (brightening up): He did? Mrs. Cordovan: Yes. I told him you had gone down to the library, and would be home pretty soon. He said he was Say, why don't you two coming over. get married and be done with it? There's no need for you to slave away trying to help the rest of us. We could get along all right!

Mona (almost sadly): I wish I could believe that. Why, you folks couldn't manage two days without me. There isn't a one of you with the least sense of financial responsibility. No. You know I

couldn't leave now!

Mrs. Cordovan (jumping up suddenly): Oh, my fruit cookies! I forgot all about them! They'll be burned to a

(Exits hurriedly, right.)

(As she leaves, Mona puts her head on the table and begins to sob. The door to the outside opens softly, and John Carson enters. He is tall and handsome, with an engaging smile, and is very much in love with Mona.)

JOHN (coming towards the table and speaking softly): Mona, dear, what's the matter? (At the sound of his voice, Mona turns quickly and tries to smile through

her tears.)

Mona: John, darling! (She rises and

they embrace.)

JOHN (holding her off with one arm): Dearest, I have the best news in the world! I couldn't wait a minute to come to tell you!

Mona: Why, John. What is it? (They

sit on sofa.)

JOHN: Guess! Will you promise to

say yes when I tell you? Mona: I know I'll be tempted to. Tell

me!

JOHN (happily excited): Well, it's this. The college board had a meeting this morning, and voted to give me a year's leave of absence on pay!

Mona (breathlessly): They did?

They did. JOHN (impressively): allows for a six months' tour of Europe, and six months advanced study at the Sorbonne in Paris. (Mona is wide-eyed.) And best of all, the salary is increased three hundred dollars for the year, and it means I am asking you to marry me today and we will leave at once on our honeymoon! (He draws her to him and kisses her triumphantly.)

Mona: Oh, John! It's too good to be true! (She stops short, turns away, and finishes slowly.) But I can't go. I can't

leave the folks yet, John.

JOHN: But why can't you? I need you. I can't bear the thoughts of being

away from you for a whole year! Surely you have some right to your own happi-It would be happiness for you to come, wouldn't it?

Oh, of course it would! It will break my heart to see you go away without me. But you don't understand my family. Left to themselves—oh, I shudder to think what would happen to (She pauses and considers a mothem! ment.) John, must I decide today?

JOHN: Yes. If we go, we must leave tonight on the 6:30 for New York. There's a man there I must interview before he leaves for Canada. And then we shall have two whole weeks to ourselves, for shopping and sight-seeing, before our boat sails the twenty-second. Come, dear, let's forget there is anyone to consider but us!

Mona (drawing away): John, let me think. Give me one hour. I can't promise anything, but I will let you know then.

JOHN (a little hurt and angry): Mona, you will never forgive yourself if you say This will mean either the beginning of our happiness, or the end of it. (Pauses, then rises and looks down at Well, goodbye, dear. Call me at my room before three. And remember. no one respects too much self-sacrifice! (Mona rises but looks away.) Goodbye.

Mona (faintly): Goodbye. (John turns and leaves the room. Mona, dazed by the suddenness and finality of the situation, sits again at the table, staring dully before her, then noticing three opened envelopes on the table, she picks them up, one at a time, and reads the contents aloud.)

Mona: Epworth Grocery, \$68.48. Range Meat Market, \$49.02. Mace's Dry Goods Company, \$86.24. Please remit. (Shakes her head.) Bills, bills! This family will never be any better!

(The outside door opens and Phil enters. He is a handsome, carefree, lovable boy, and has always been a favorite of

Mona's.)

Hi, Sis. I've brought in the mail. (Throws several letters on the table, walks over to the sofa and slumps into it.)

Mona (looking over the letters): More bills, I suppose. And a letter for Betty. (Lavs them down.)

PHIL (sitting up, but assuming a nonchalant air): Say, Sis, how about a loan of a ten-spot?

Mona: A ten spot!

PHIL: Your hearing is correct.

Mona: Phil Cordovan, what do you think I am? Your millionaire uncle? What do you need ten dollars for?

PHIL: Now, don't ask me in that kind of a voice! It makes me think I'm a meek little wife, trying to raise a nickle out of my tight-fisted husband! Come on, be a sport! Just say, "Why certainly, my love," and hand it over. There's a dear!

Mona (looking at him as if she sees him for the first time): Phil, how much money have I given you in the past year?

PHIL: Gosh, Sis! I don't remember. You know, though, I'll pay every cent back, just as soon as I get to making enough. This darned job I've got doesn't keep me in clean shirts and gasoline! I'm going to strike the boss for twenty a week, Monday morning, and if he turns me down, I'm going to quit!

Mona (sarcastically): I suppose it will be easier to live on nothing than a mere eighteen dollars a week, will it? Well, perhaps so. It's you that will have to do the living.

PHIL: You mean you won't lend me ten dollars?

Mona: Phil, I'm not going to lend you another cent! I'm through! Not only with you, but with this whole family! I've worked, and gone without necessities, just to keep the grocery and meat bills paid. And what do I get out of it? Does anyone appreciate me? Am I worth anything except for more money?

PHIL (sitting up and taking notice): Gosh, Mona, what wound you up?

MONA: I mean it! I'm leaving today! PHIL: What?

Mona (her eyes snapping): I'm going away. I'm going to marry John Carson, this very atternoon, and take a trip to Europe! (Phil's mouth drops open.) I told him awhile ago I'd let him know in an hour. Then, I thought it was my duty to stay here and help my family. Now I see things as they are! I'm going to phone John and tell him my mind is made up. My family can go hang! (Rises.) I'm getting married and getting out! (She exits, grandly, through the double door.)

PHIL (looking after her, then scratching his head, and taking the audience into his confidence): Now, do you suppose I did that?

(Betty Lou enters from the outside door, carelessly slamming it after her.)
BETTY: Hello, Bud. How's Sweetness?

(Crosses behind the sofa, runs her fingers through Phil's hair, and sits beside him at his right.)

PHIL (suspiciously): What do you want now?

BETTY: Why, Phil dear, can't I just be nice without wanting something?

PHIL: Never knew it to happen before. BETTY: Well, then, Old, Know-It-All, I'll tell you what's on my mind. Will you lend me ten dollars until—oh, next week, sometime? There's the sweetest little dress downtown—

PHIL (interrupting): So that's it. Why come to me for money?

BETTY: Haven't you got any? Wasn't today pay-day? I would ask Mona for it, but she was so snippy awhile ago that I'm never going to ask her for another cent!

PHIL: You won't have the opportunity.

BETTY: Why not?

PHIL: I'm afraid the worm has turned at last, my love. I came in here very calmly, two minutes ago, and just touched her gently for a ten-spot, myself, like I have done for goodness knows how long. And do you think she gave it to me? Well, I should say not! She rose up in her wrath, asked if I thought she was a reservoir of money, and gave me the shock of my life!

BETTY (incredulously): What was

that?

PHIL: She said she was going to marry John Carson, today, and leave right away for Europe on her honeymoon!

BETTY (shocked): She did!

PHIL: She sure did. In fact, if she carries out her little threat, I'm afraid I know one family who will have to make some different financial arrangements. Did it ever occur to you how much she has spent on this family?

BETTY: Well, I guess I never thought much about it. I always supposed she wanted to, or she would have stopped. Leaving, eh? (Rises and walks toward the table.) Our doormat is walking out from under our feet! (Then seeing the mail on the table.) Oh, letter for me? (Sits at the table, opens the envelope and reads in astonishment.)

BETTY (open-mouthed): Why, Phil, listen to this. You know I got back those grades from my teacher's examination last week, and they were all failures? Well, look at this! They sent the wrong grades by mistake! These are mine, and I passed with two per cent to the good! What do you know about that?

PHIL: Honest? Let me see? Why. sure thing, and your certificate all ready

BETTY (snatching the card back again): Say, I've an idea! Sure Mona meant what she said awhile ago?

PHIL: I'll say she meant it!

(Without a word, Betty grabs her hat, pushes it on her head, ties the string around the box containing the dresses, and starts for the door.)

PHIL: Where're you going?

BETTY: You'd be surprised! I'll tell you more when I come back. And don't tell anybody about the grades! (Exits

left.)

PHIL (complaining to the world at This family has more sudden large): notions than a dog has fleas! I've an idea, myself. (Goes to the telephone and takes down the receiver.) Harrison 7400. Hello. Hello, Bill?—Say, you know that little deal we were going in on together? -Well, I've got something else in mind. Do you suppose I could sell that galloping puddle jumper of mine for cash, instead of trading it in on a good car?-You would? Honest?-Say, that would be all right!-Oh, what about twenty bucks?-Yeah-Say, those tires are good!-Yeah -Well, not a cent less than eighteen!-Sold!-Yeah, all right. Come over right away, and the deal's made! So long. Whew! Eighteen (Hangs up receiver.) bucks for that little jitney, and I gave only twelve for it three months ago! Bill must be flush on cash!

(Mr. Cordovan enters left. He is dressed in overalls, and looks a little weary from the day's work, but he is evidently in good spirits. He is a small man, around fifty, who is very fond of his family, but his main fault is his lack

of financial foresight.)

'Lo, Phil. (Crosses Mr. Cordovan: the room and sits at the library table.)

PHIL: Hi, Dad.

MR. CORDOVAN: Say, Bud, I've found a real bargain. You know, I stopped in at the Morton Motor Company on my way home, and they've got the sweetest little model you ever laid eyes on.

PHIL: Have they?

MR. CORDOVAN: Sure thing. I'm crazy about it! Do you know what they'll do? If we trade in our old wheezing flivver and your little two by four, it'll only take ten dollars more to make the down payment! What do you say?

PHIL: Where will you get the ten dollars?

MR. CORDOVAN: Well, to tell the truth. I am a little short, right now, that is, but I thought if you didn't have it maybe Mona would come across. She's never said "no" yet, and this is too good to let get away. I wonder if she is home yet? I'll go ask her. (Starts to rise.)

PHIL: Wait a minute, Dad. Mona's not in the money-lending business, any more. She announced to me awhile ago that she's leaving us.

MR. CORDOVAN: What!

PHIL: Just what I said. Mona is going to marry John Carson today, and they're leaving at once for a honeymoon in Europe.

Mr. Cordovan (dazed): Mona's going away? Mona? Why, she can't. Who'll help take care of this family, if Mona

goes?

PHIL (rising and speaking down to his father): Do you know, Dad, how we have been acting ever since Mona began to make her own money? We have all expected her to pay the bills, buy all the extras, and keep the whole family in spending money! I never thought much about it, until today. She always scolded, but she always paid. But today something must have come over her. I came in and asked her as usual for a ten-spot, and some of the things she said along with "NO" just started me to thinking. (Mr. Cordovan blinks in astonishment.) First of all, we don't need a new car! Everything we own, now, we're still paying for on the installment plan. We can't afford to put a new car on the list. (Picks up the bills from the table.) Just glance at these little notices with "Please Remit" written at the end. I know, I've been as bad as the rest, but even I can tell when we've gone far enough.

MR. CORDOVAN: But Phil— PHIL: Besides, I've just had a chance to sell my little car, and for once I'm going to use the money to pay some of my back debts. (Mrs. Cordovan enters from the kitchen.) Mother, you need in on this, too.

Mrs. Cordovan: In on what? (Sits

in rocker at right.)

PHIL: .Dad and I were just taking stock of ourselves, and we've decided

we've been a couple of bums!

Mr. Cordovan (rising and talking as if the whole idea were his): Mother, we can't afford a new car, after all! We can't afford that new radio you were talking about! We can'tMRS. CORDOVAN: Dad, what are you saying? I've already had the radio installed. (Motions toward the radio. Phil and Dad see it for the first time. They also see the chair and the floor lamp.)

MR. CORDOVAN: What!

PHIL: When did all this happen?

MRS. CORDOVAN: Why, this morning, of course. Did you think I was going to give a tea party to the biggest celebrity we've had in this town for years, and have him think we are such poor dubs we can't even have a decently furnished house?

PHIL: Tea party?

Mr. Cordovan: What celebrity are you

talking about?

MRS. CORDOVAN: Oh, you impossible men! You never listen or pay any attention to anything we women consider important! The Count Von Rue, of course! You know I've been planning something in his honor, ever since he came to visit the Douglasses. I knew I couldn't get away with a dinner, with our plates all cracked up and our silverware so chipped off, so—I thought of a Sunday afternoon tea. And of course, I'm giving it! I've already invited everyone—all the important women in town. Now, what were you saying about the radio?

(During her speech, Mr. Cordovan and Phil stare at her with open mouths.)

PHIL: Who in thunder is Count Von Rue? And what's the idea of your having to entertain for him?

Mr. Cordovan: Yes, that's what I'd like to know.

Mrs. Cordovan (turning away from them): You folks make me tired! Of course, I don't have to entertain for him! Can't you see he's doing me a great honor to be my guest? Count Von Rue! Known Europe, England—oh, everywhere, where people are cultured and amount to something! All you know is your stupid jobs! (Turns to her husband.) You should have married a woman like Mrs. Beam. She would have been interested in nothing but you and your dirty iob! That's one woman who isn't invited to this tea! She may be all right as a neighbor, and good when somebody is sick, but she is better off at home than among people who are interested in cultural things. (Pauses for breath.)

MR. CORDOVAN (removing his cap and scratching his head): So! You aren't interested in my dirty job! You would rather give a party to some damn fool Count who couldn't even hold a job! Well,

where did you expect to get the money to entertain him on? Was he going to buy the sandwiches? Or whatever you have at your fool parties! Was he going to make the down payment on this radio? (Waxing sarcastic.) Was he expecting to give you this lamp and chair for a little appreciation gift? My dirty job, eh! I'm so glad to hear you won't want any more of the money it pays! Is the Count going to pay your expenses from now on?

MRS. CORDOVAN (with head in the air): You needn't act so high and mighty! Of course, the Count isn't paying for these things. But did you suppose I was depending on your miniature wages to afford me any pleasures? Mona is still here, thank goodness, or we might not even eat regularly! You don't need to worry about the expenses. As if you ever had money for anything, anyway, but repairs for your old automobile! (She rises and starts, loftily, for the double door.)

PHIL: Hold on a minute, Mom! Not so fast. You've left Dad gasping for breath, but I can still talk. You'd better take back what you've just said. Your days of help from Mona are over! (Mrs. Cordovan stops and turns around at these words.) She's leaving us this afternoon, and I guess it's a darn good thing!

MRS. CORDOVAN (coming back): Mona

-leaving! What are you saying?

PHIL: The gospel truth. Mona is, at last, tired of being the goat, and I can see why! She is going to marry Carson, this very afternoon, and leave on the first train for Europe!

MRS. CORDOVAN (dazed): Mona! Mona marry Carson! (To Phil.) Who told you all this? (Sits again in the chair at

right.)

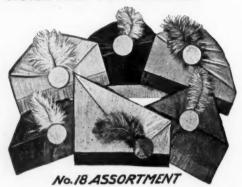
PHIL: The lady herself! I guess I was the straw that broke the camel's back. Anyway, when I asked her for a small financial loan, a while ago, she turned on me like the proverbial worm, and told me where to get off! She announced her marriage and went to execute her plans before any of this family had time to stop her!

Mr. Cordovan: Now what about your

dear Count?

MRS. CORDOVAN (turning to her husband): Ross. don't behave like a child! (Then back to Phil.) I'm too stunned to believe it! Surely Mona wouldn't let me down like this! She can't help but know I was depending on her. I'm going up to see her right now! She was in her room a moment ago. (Starts to rise.)

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MR. CORDOVAN: Annie, wait a minute! Don't you think for one minute you are going to spoil my girl's happiness by butting into her affairs! You let Mona alone!

MRS. CORDOVAN: But my tea party! (Bursts into tears.) This is all a put-up job. I know! (Telephone rings.)

PHIL (answering): Hello—Yes, she's here; I'll call her. (Turns to Mrs. Cordeven) Methor

dovan.) Mother.

(Mrs. Cordovan wipes her eyes and goes to the phone. Phil sits again on the

sofa.)

MRS. CORDOVAN (into phone): Hello. Oh, hello, Mrs. Beam (affecting a friendly tone). How are you?—Yes, this is a fine day.—Oh, for the tea party? Oh, yes.— Yes, I'm just having a few friends who I thought would enjoy the Count, and whom the Count would enjoy, of course. (Aside.) Of all the nerve! She is just trying to fish out an invitation! I'll just fool her one! (Into the phone.) What was that?—WHAT? The idea! Of course not!-Why, I don't believe a word of it! Who started that, I wonder?—(Icily) Yes, certainly, Mrs. Beam. Thank you, of course, for your kind interest. (Slams Well, if that isn't a up the receiver.) downright insult, I never heard of one! MR. CORDOVAN: What's the matter?

PHIL: What's the trouble now?
MRS. CORDOVAN (eyes blazing): That
busybody has nerve enough to remove her
own appendix! Could you guess what she
said! She heard, awhile ago, that Count
Von Rue was being held in jail on a swindle charge! Imagine that! She heard
that, and calls me to tell me about it.

So good of her!

Mr. Cordovan: Maybe it's true.

MRS. CORDOVAN: True! Ross Cordovan, that will just be enough from you. You're only jealous! I'm going to call Mrs. Douglass this minute and ask to speak with Conrad. I'll ask him about his favorite sandwiches. (Takes down receiver.)

PHIL: He may need his favorite sandwiches, if they've got him in the cala-

bocse!

MRS. CORDOVAN (frowning at Phil): Hush! (Into phone.) Riverside 6482W. PHIL: Gee, she doesn't even have to

look up his number, any more.

MRS. CORDOVAN: The Douglass residence? May I speak with Count Von Rue, please?—What! It's true, then! He's really in jail?—Well, may I speak to Mrs.

Douglass?—Indisposed! (Angrily.) Well, I'd think she had better be. (Slams up receiver.)

MR. CORDOVAN: It's true, is it?

PHIL (with a grand gesture): What a bust! (Dramatic pause.)

MRS. CORDOVAN (rising and crossing to the chair at the table): Oh, I think this is terrible! (Buries her face in her arms on the table and begins to

sob.)

MR. CORDOVAN (relenting at the sight of her tears): Now, Annie, don't take it so hard! (Rises and pats her on the shoulder.) You just got out of it in time. Why, just think, he might have swindled you out of everything we have! If that's the kind of a man he is, we'd better find out before you have him to tea, rather than after he had made off with something.

PHIL: Yes, Mother. Why, he might

have taken the radio!

MRS. CORDOVAN (looking up and wiping her eyes): Get that horrid thing out of my sight! (Mr. Cordovan sits again.) Phil, call up the manager of that place and tell him we've changed our minds about wanting a radio! Send back this lamp and chair, too! I don't want a single thing around here to remind me of this disgraceful outrage! (Looks on the table and around the room.) Where are those dresses I had sent out this morning? I want those sent back right away!

PHIL: I think Betty took them when she went out awhile ago. She didn't say where she was going, but she said she

had an idea.

MRS. CORDOVAN (going to her husband): Ross (Mr. Cordovan looks loftily away), I'm sorry I said what I did about your job. (Begins to cry again.) I didn't realize—

MR. CORDOVAN (rising and putting his arm around her): There, that's all right. I know you didn't mean it. (He sniffles, reaches for his big red handkerchief and wipes his eyes and blows his nose.)

(Mona enters from the double door. She is dressed in a traveling suit, a becoming hat, and is carrying a leather bag. She enters with an air of determination, but at the sight of her parents in tears, her determination melts away, and she drops her bag and rushes over to them.)

Mona: Oh, darlings, don't feel that way about my going! I was silly even to think I wanted to go away and leave you

all alone. Please don't cry. It isn't too late. I can phone John again that I've changed my mind!

MRS. CORDOVAN (wiping her eyes and smiling through her tears): Mona! I'm

so glad for you! I really am!

Mr. Cordovan (patting his daughter's shoulder): My big girl is going to have her happiness at last! Don't mind us old folks. Of course, we'll miss you, but you mustn't let that worry you one bit. We're all tickled to death about your plans, honey.

PHIL: Congratulations, Sis. You left too sudden for me to have a chance to

offer them awhile ago!

Mona: Oh, but I can't go! Not really. John will wait another year. (To her mother and father.) I can't bear to see

Mrs. Cordovan (wiping her eyes on her apron): Mona, what are you saying? Not going to marry John, after all? Why not?

MR. CORDOVAN: Why, what is there to

stop you?

PHIL: Did you think they were crying over you? (Betty Lou enters from the outside, unnoticed.) It's just that the tea party's upset.

MONA: What?

PHIL: The dear Count turned out to be a jail-bird, and they're holding him down town behind the bars. party's called off.

MONA: The Count! In jail? PHIL: You're darn tootin'!

Mrs. Cordovan: Don't take it so seriously, dear. Of course, it has upset our little plans some, but we aren't going to let it interfere with your romance!

Mr. Cordovan: I should say not!

Mona: Oh, you darlings! I knew you would take my going like this. It just makes me see how selfish I really am. Why, I can't give up my school for another year! You couldn't possibly manage without the help of my salary. I'm sorry I even thought of leaving you. It's a good thing I haven't resigned my position.

BETTY (stepping forward): But I did it for you, Mona!

What! MONA:

BETTY: I got a letter from the superintendent on this afternoon's mail, and he had sent me the wrong grades before. I passed in everything!

MRS. CORDOVAN and MONA: You did! Betty: Yes, sir! Passed in every-

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thing, and he sent the certificate along with the grades and an apology for his (Betty holds out the cercarelessness. tificate and the family group around to look at it.) Well, what did I do? had just told me that Mona was going to marry John and leave right away, so I just went to that school board and told them Mona was resigning, but that I could give them a tip on who to hire in her place. Believe it or not, but I've got the job! (She waves an official-looking pa-Contract all signed. I even get to teach in the summer school. All ready to go to work Monday morning!

Mona: Betty! Not really?

BETTY: You bet! I told them all about your wonderful honeymoon you are going to take, and they all sent their best wishes.

Mona (sitting weakly in the chair at the table): But Betty, can you teach? You don't know how. (Phil has sat down on the sofa and Dad goes over to the chair at extreme right.)

BETTY (sitting at the telephone): No, but I can learn. I'm not dumb. You didn't know much about it either, did you,

when you started in?

MRS. CORDOVAN: My baby! A school teacher! (Crosses and sits in the new chair.) You see, Mona, we'll make it

fine. With Betty to help-

BETTY (interrupting): By the way, I want it understood here and now that I'm not intending to be the family pocketbook, however. I may take Mona's place in the schoolroom, but I draw the line on her place in the family budget. Mother, I shall pay you for my board and room and laundry, and that is all. I'm going to save my money to go to college!

PHIL: That's right, Betty. Mona, I'm going to pay everything I owe you yet! It may be in small installments, but it

will give you pin money along.

Mona: Oh, Phil! Forget about that. I'm sorry I said what I did to you this afternoon. I'm going to lend you this ten, after all, just to show you what a good sport I am! (Hands Phil a ten dollar bill.)

PHIL (jumping up to take it): Why, Sis! Why, thanks a lot! (Doorbell rings.)

Mona (jumping to her feet): That's John now! (Looks around at the family who have risen excitedly at the sound of the bell.) Not a word to him that I nearly changed my mind. (Betty goes to the door and Mona hugs her mother and father in turn.) You darlings! I'm ab-

solutely the happiest girl in the world! (John enters, and Mona runs to him.)

JOHN: It's all arranged! We're to go to the minister's for the ceremony, and then catch the 6:30 for New York. I have the drawingroom reservations, and we'll eat our wedding supper in the diner! (Turns to the rest.) Wish us good luck, folks?

MRS. CORDOVAN: But can't we come to the wedding? I can't miss seeing my

daughter married!

JOHN: What do you say, Mona?
Mona (turning to the family): Oh,
yes, come on. I want all of you to be
there. John and I will go on in the taxi.
You folks can ride in the car. Don't
bother to dress up too much. And don't
be late! (She picks up her bag, hands
it to John, and then exeunt amid shouts

of ·)

MRS. CORDOVAN: We'll hurry!

BETTY: See you again in five minutes! PHIL: So long!

MR. CORDOVAN: We'll be along in a

iiffy

(Betty and her mother exeunt through the double door. Mr. Cordovan takes off his overall jacket. Sees Phil looking at the ten dollar bill Mona has given him, pauses on his way to the double door, and comes back to the center of the stage.)

MR. CORDOVAN: By the way, Phil, now that Betty is going to teach and have such a good position, hadn't we better think about getting a new car after all? We can take Mother and Betty around to the show-room, after the wedding, and let them look at it. I know Betty will be willing to help keep up the payments. You know, they said they'd take in our old flivver and your little rounabout and ten dollars for the down payment. What do you say?

PHIL (half grinning at the idea, and persuading himself it is all right): It does sound all right. And I guess I don't need this ten for anything else, right now. Well—we might as well look it over.

anyway. (Exeunt.)

CURTAIN.

Dollar Down is a new play tested for school use by several productions from manuscript. Like other features of School Activities, this play is fully protected by convright, but permission is hereby granted for its use by School Activities subscribers without royalty charge. Extra copies for members of the east will be sent on receipt of twenty cents each.

Every school executive, sponsor, or other group leader needs sources of constant help. School magazines, each in its particular field, offer available sources.

Games for the Group

For Your Fall Picnic.

Here are some valuable estimates as to how much of each provision you'll need when serving a picnic crowd. If they are all young people, increase the amounts slightly; if there are many children, or older people, you will need just about these.

Coffee—For 15 people, use $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. coffee and 16 cups boiling water.

Lemonade—A dozen and a half medium size lemons will serve 20 to 25 persons.

Salad—One quart of salad will serve eight persons.

Sandwiches—One loaf of bread will make 20 to 24 sandwiches.

Butter—Two-thirds cup creamed butter will spread 24 sandwiches.

Filling—One and one-half pints sandwich filling will fill 24 sandwiches.

Chicken—One 4 lb. chicken will yield about 3 cups of diced meat.

Ham—One pound of cold boiled ham will serve 6 to 8 persons.

Cake—One large cake 12 inches in diameter will serve 16 persons.

Frozen Mixture—One quart of homemade or store ice cream will serve 6 persons fairly generously.

Nuts—One pound salted nuts will serve 20 persons.

Meat Loaf—One pound meat loaf will serve 6 persons.

Veal for Filler—Cook 1 pound veal with your chicken, dice it into the chicken mixture, and you will never guess its presence. Keep both scrupulously cool, as they spoil quickly, and are highly poisonous.

Baked Potatoes—Potatoes well-washed may be baked in a bed of coals on a fall picnic, and served with butter and salt are great.

The Pie Plate Relay.

Divide the guests into two or more teams of equal size and line each team up. The leader of each team is handed a pie tin which he must balance upon his head. At the word "go" each leader runs forward, hands locked behind him, to the

goal, which he circles and returns. He removes the pie tin from his own head and places it on the head of the next person in his line, who repeats the performance; and so on. The last runner places the the pan again on the head of the leader. In their hurry the pan is very seldom balanced properly and is usually shaken off. The runner must then stop and replace the lost pan.

Message from the Ashes.

The performer seats himself at a table and requests the company to name 13 well-known authors, one at a time. He writes the names on slips of paper as they are called out, folds the slips and places them in a hat. Someone draws out one and puts it unopened in his pocket.

The other slips are placed on a metal plate and burned. The performer then shows his left arm to the elbow, quite bare. Taking some ashes from the plate, he rubs them on his arm and the name of an author appears upon his arm. The folded slip is opened and the name found to be the same as that on the performer's arm.

To do this: First, cut a piece of yellow soap in the shape of a pencil and with it write in large letters the word "Dickens" on your arm. This will be invisible until the ashes are rubbed on it. When the names are called out, write down "Dickens" for every one, and fold each slip immediately after writing it. Be sure someone in the audience suggests Dickens.

Have a Gingham Frolic.

Giving some special kind of a party is a whole lot more fun than just merely giving a party. For mixing your crowd, costumes are always good, but unless they are easy and inexpensive, many persons do not wear them. Here's an all-girls' party suitable for girl reserves, for the faculty wives, or for a meeting of the women teachers of your school.

Call your party a Gingham Frolic. Send out these invitations:

GINGHAM FROLIC

FRIDAY NIGHT

8 O'CLOCK

Don your apron, any shade; Wear some comfy shoes: Come to Junior High, and we'll Help you rout the blues!

Have regular kid games, like "Drop the Handkerchief," "Three Deep," and Then have a potato paring or others. apple paring contest, with some domestic sort of a prize, like a good-looking piece of colored enamelware, or a pottery mixing bowl.

For refreshments, put on the tables either cloth or crepe paper red table cloths; serve apple pie a la mode, on plain ironstone china plates, and chocolate or coffee in big heavy hotel mugs, with no

saucers.

Dancing, cards, and old-time games are appropriate and the guests will feel so free and easy in their informal clothes that the entertainment will virtually take care of itself.

Partners for Supper.

For a novel method to arrange partners for supper at class parties or any small school party, the following plan has been

successfully used:

Upon separate slips of paper, write the names of famous couples in history, literature, mythology, the Bible, and the comic strips in newspapers. Just before time for refreshments to be served, pass to the boys the slips on which are written the names of the men, and to the girls, the names of the women. Thus, if a boy is given the name of "George Washington," he immediately hunts for the girl who has "Martha Washington" written on her slip. It is a good mental exercise and will be keenly enjoyed by high school students who are, or should be, familiar with the names of the couples.

If there are more girls than boys pres-

ent, as is often the case, some of the girls may act as boys to make even couples, or some boys may be given two names, allowing them two partners for supper.

I. History, past and present:

1. George Washington-Martha Washington.

2. Abraham Lincoln—Mary Todd Lincoln.

3. Herbert Hoover-Lou Henry Hoover.

4. King Ferdinand—Queen Isabella.

5. William Shakespeare—Ann Hathaway Shakespeare.

6. Anthony—Cleopatra.

II. Literature and History:

7. Romeo—Juliet.

8. Othello—Desdemona.

9. Ivanhoe—Rowena.

10. Malcolm Graeme—Ellen Douglass

11. John Alden-Priscilla.

12. Bassanio—Portia.

III. Bible:

13. Adam—Eve.

14. Abraham—Sara.

15. Isaac—Rebecca.

16. Boaz-Ruth.

IV. Mythology:

17. Jupiter—Juno.18. Menelaus—Helen.

19. Ulysses—Penelope.

V. Comics:

20. Jiggs—Maggie.

21. Andy Gump—Min.

2. Uncle Bim-Widow Zander.

23. Uncle Walt—Phyllis.

24. A. Mutt-Mrs. Mutt.

If the party is small, at the close of the refreshments, each couple may act, in pantomime or impromptu dialogue, an appropriate scene to represent the couple whose names they have, while the others may guess whom they are impersonating. If the group is large, several of the best known characters may be chosen for the acting.

TEACHERS. WE PLACE YOU IN THE BETTER POSITIONS



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Stunts, and Entertainment Features

For Parties, Banquets, Assemblies, and for Money-Making Entertainments.

The Old and the New.

Here is a double recitation that will be appreciated by people of a farming community. By some adaptation the principle taught may be carried over to fit in homes that are not rural.

Best effect will be produced if the two boys are dressed and outfitted particularly for their parts. The first boy should be a ne'er-do-well or down-and-outer—a boy who has not done well. The second boy should be a happy, prosperous young farmer—one that everyone should be proud of.

FIRST BOY.

I left my dad, his tarm, his plow,
Because my calf became his cow;
I left my dad—'twas wrong, of course,
But my pet colt became his horse;
I left my dad to sow and reap,
Because my lamb became his sheep;
I dropped my hoe and hit New York,
Because my pig became his pork.
The garden truck I made to grow,
Was his to sell and mine to hoe.
Believe me, too, I had to hoe—
There was no riding down the row.
Second Boy.

With dad and me it's half and half;
The cow I own was once his calf.
I'm going to stick right where I am,
Because my sheep was once his lamb;
I'll stay with dad—he gets my vote,
Because his pig became my shoat.
No town for me—I'll stick right here,
For he's made me tractor engineer.
It's even split with dad and me,
In a profit-sharing company.
We work together from day to day;
Believe me, boys. it's the only way!

School Songs.

-Minnesota Farm Bulletin.

Song is a universal language, and if the song can be about the school and its activities, the appeal will be strong. Start learning a new song or two at the opening assembly of the year, and there'll be no restlessness among the students.

Here are some adapted words for well-known tunes—mighty singable.

OUR TEAM.
(Tune—Always)

If you boost the team, Sunday, do not criticize Monday.

You must see it through; there is work to do;

They'll be needing you, Tuesday, Wednesday;

Do not sigh and sob, Thursday; the scrub team's on the job, Friday;

Not for just an hour, not for just a day, Not for just one game, but ALWAYS.

TOUCHDOWN SONG.

(Tune—The Farmer in the Dell)
We're twenty-five yards from goal,
We're twenty-five yards from goal,
We'll put a whole, then pass a while;
We're twenty-five yards from goal.

(Vary the distance at will)
And now they're in the hole,
We made that touchdown goal;
We punted a while, then passed a while,
And now they're in a hole.

School's On.
(Tune—Springtime in the Rockies)
Now it's autumn in the schoolroom
We've come rushing back again,
With our notebooks full of paper
And a well-filled fountain pen.
We will hear profoundest learning
While the birds sing all the day;
And no matter how we're yearning,
'Twill be hard to get away.

FLIP. FLAP. FLOP.
(Tune—You Wore a Tulip)
Are you a camel or aren't you a camel,
And have you a big round hump?
Do you sit on the bleachers like your
strong-minded teachers.

Or do you sit in a limp, limp lump?
Are you a flopper, a flip flapping flopper,
Having a drowsy dream?
For if you're a flopper, a flip flapping
flopper,

You're not helping boost our team.

Reuben and Rachel.

Two comedy characters which add to the life of a school carnival are "Reuben and Rachel."

Two boys (with singing voices) should be dressed to represent the characters. If possible, select a tall thin boy for Rachel; dress him in old-fashioned clothing (either long, or extremely short skirts) with a large hat covered with plumes. He should wear women's shoes; high-heeled, if possible.

Reuben should be a short, fat boy, who wears trousers noticeably tight, a coat which will not meet in front, too-short sleeves, and any outlandish headgear.

During the carnival proper the two may have balloons to sell or appear to be audience and draw attention to different concessions by patronizing each in an attracting manner.

When the program begins, they sing the following words to the tune of "Reu-

ben and Rachel":

RACHEL:

Reuben, Reuben, I've been thinkin' What a grand world this would be, If the men were all transported Far beyond the northern sea.

REUBEN:

Rachel, Rachel, I've been thinkin'
We would have a jolly time,
If we men were all transported
Far beyond the "Northern Brine."
RACHEL:

Reuben, Reuben, I've been thinkin'
Life would be so easy then;
What a lovely world this would be
If there were no tiresome men!

REUBEN:

Rachel, Rachel, I've been thinkin'
It would be a jolly life
To be rid of "pesky" women

And not have a nagging wife! RACHEL (beginning to cry):

Reuben, Reuben, I've been thinkin'
Please don't go away from me;
I was only just a-fooling

As, of course, I thought you'd see!

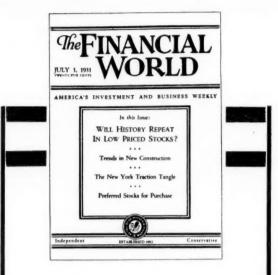
REUBEN (puts arm around her):
Rachel, if you'll not transport us
We will be so happy here,
And I'll not go 'way and leave you,
So just dry your little tear.

REUBEN (with arm still around Rachel, turns and sings to audience):

My dear friends, now I've been thinkin'
If we went beyond the seas,
All the girls would follow after
Like a swarm of honey bees! (Exit.)

A Sophomore Muses.

In the spring,
Of love I sing;
And then it's fall
And that is all!



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It is a pleasure to give you this recommendation. You have never asked me for a recommendation and I don't suppose you ever would, but I simply cannot keep still about it. Any concern that renders the service you do for the money is entitled to commendation and you have mine.—Rees Wilkinson, President, National Old Line Life Ins. Co., Lincoln, Nebraska.

Here is my check for another year. Have been a subscriber for many years and hope to continue for many more.—H. P. Gerald, U. S. Patent Office, Washington, D. C.

Send your order to

School Activities Magazine

1212 West 13th

Topeka, Kansas

Comedy Cues

For the READER who enjoys a laugh and who reads jokes for his own amusement. For the ENTERTAINER who needs jokes and other humorous material out of which to produce comedy acts.

For the SPEAKER who in conversation or public address would liven up his remarks with humorous illustrations.

"Mary" of Today.

"I hear zoologists have found a lamb in South America that can run 40 miles an hour."

"That's the only kind of lamb that could keep up with Mary nowadays."

Mr. Todd: Don, why are you so late this morning?

Donald: Well, it was this way. When Ah looked into the glass this mo'nin' Ah couldn't see mahse'f so Ah figgers Ah must hah gone to school. Doggone, eff'n it wasn't two hours befoah Ah found out de glass had dropped out of the frame.

Patient: Doc, why does a small cavity feel so large to your tongue?

Doc: Oh, just the natural tendency of your tongue to exaggerate.

Nowadays.

A new clerk, dictating a letter to a modern stenog, was in doubt as to the use of a certain phrase, so he said to the young lady: Do you retire a loan? and the wistful-eyed one answered sleeply: No, I sleep with mamma.

"I beg your pardon, sir, but what is your name?" the teller politely asked the man presenting a check.

"Name," replied the indignant customer, "don't you see my signature on the check?"

"I do," answered the teller. "That's what aroused my curiosity."

Boss: You've been away over half an hour and only had to go around the corner.

Office Boy: I know, sir, but a man dropped half a dollar in the gutter.

Boss: And did it take half an hour to find it?

Office Boy: No, sir, but I had to wait till the man went away.—The Pathfinder.

Others Like Him.

Knockout Riley: Cheese, kid. Dat last article you wrote for de paper was a pippin.

One-round Pete: Dat's wot dey tell me. Y'know, buddy, sometimes I wish't I could read.

Hortense: I could die waltzing.

Rudolpho: Excuse me while I speak to the orchestra leader.—The Pathfinder.

Hoax: Why do you call your car "Regulator"?

Joax: Well, don't and the other cars go by it?

Judge: How fast was she driving when she passed you?

Officer: Well, the bulldog on the seat beside her looked like a dachshund!

Self-Explanatory.

A picture card from a world-touring

Dad to his son in college:

"This is the cliff from which the ancient
Spartans used to throw their defective
children. Wish you were here.—Dad."

-The Furrow.

Nolle: How did you get out of admitting that your father was electrocuted?

Prosse: I said he occupied the chair of applied electricity at one of our public institutions.

Small Son: Grandpa, when are you going to play football?

Grandpa: Football? I can't play foot-

Small Son: But daddy said we'd get a new car as soon as you kicked off.

Teacher: Give an example of period furniture.

Starohope: Well, I should say an electric chair, because it ends a sentence.

Book Shelf

For the convenience of our readers we offer this list of books of various publishers. We do not say that these are all the good extra curricular books, but we do say that all these extra curricular books are good. In time and with the help of our friends we hope to add other worthy numbers to this list.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (General)

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (General)

A Handbook of Extra Curricular Activities, by Harold D. Meyer This is one of the most popular among extra curricular books. It contains 416 pages and deals with every phase of the subject. Character building and student participation in school government are given parts in the book, as well as are the more specific matters such as the annual, athletic contests, social functions, special day programs, school dramatics, etc. Price, \$3.

Extra-Classroom Activities, by R. H. Jordan, Professor of Education in Cornell University. This book differs from other books in its field in the fact that it presents a unified plan for extra curricular activities through both elementary grades and high school. It contains 312 pages of sound theory and practical ideas presented in an interesting way. Price, \$2.50.

Extraourricular Activities, by Harry C. McKown. This is a standard book in the field of extra curricular activities. It treats the subject both generally and specifically. One who has access to this book will have opportunity for complete knowledge of what extra curricular activities mean and of how one should proceed to get the values they offer. Price, \$3.

Extra Curricular Activities in Junior and Senior High Schools, by J. Roemer and C. F. Allen. This book is one that has extended its scope to cover both iunior and senior high school interests. It contains 333 pages. The authors have made it a tractical handbook and a readable discourse on extra curricular matters. Price, \$2.

Point Systems and Awards, by Edgar G. Johnston. In this book the author gives types of point systems now in use and shows how such systems may be used to best advantage in guiding, stimulating, and limiting pupil participation in extra curricular activities. He tells how to proceed in introducing a point system and how its administration should be carried on. Price, \$1.

THRIFT AND FINANCING STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Financing Extra Curricular Activities, by Harold D. Meyer and S. M. Eddleman. This book gives plans for raising money, methods of distributing finances, and systems of accounting for moneys. It gives forms for use in budgeting and accounting. It is a new book and one that gives definite and practical help in financing all branches of extra curricular activities. Price, \$1. How to Plan and Carry Out a School Carnival, by C. R. Van Nice. This is a school carnival book written from the viewpoint of a school executive. It gives a general plan of organization for a school carnival and detailed instructions for carrying out that plan. It describes a number of advertising and moneymaking features, Throughout it treats the school carnival as both an educational project and a money-making enterprice. Price, 50c.

Price, 50c.

Thrift Through Education, by Carobel Murphy. Here we have the author's account of the highly successful experiment in thrift education as carried on in the Thomas A. Edison High School, Los Angeles. This book meets a very great need of high schools at the present time. It gives junior and senior high school teachers definite and workable ideas by which to develop thrift, business judgment, and habits of saving. Price, \$1.

THE ASSEMBLY

Assembly and Auditorium Activities, by Harry C. McKown. This is a new book by this well-known authority in extra curricular matters. It contains 462 pages and treats every phase of the problem of developing assembly and auditorium activities that are powerful forces toward the achievement of secondary school objectives. Its emphasis is upon practical material, and it offers programs and program material that are appropriate for all kinds and sizes of schools and all grades within these schools. Price, \$2.50.

Assembly Programs, by M. Channing Wagner. This is a new and popular handbook on assembly programs. It gives principles, aims, and objectives of the school assembly. It describes the various types of assembly and shows how they may be correlated with the curricular work of the school. The author gives suggested programs for a whole school year.

HOME ROOMS

HOME ROOMS

Home Rooms—Organization, Administration, and Activities, by Evan E. Evans and Malcolm Scott Hallman. This book gives both general and detailed treatment of the home room as it is now conceived by leading educators. The book is strictly new and a most up-to-date publication in home room organization, planning, and development. Price, \$1.

SCHOOL CLUBS

High School Clubs, by Blackburn. Here is a book that gives the essentials of school club organization and direction. While it is not intended to be an exhaustive treatment of the subject, it does give an abundance of practical help. For a club sponsor with limited training, this book should be among his first library references. Price, \$1.25.

School Clubs, by Harry C. McKown. This is a most complete

treatment of the subject of school clubs. It suggests an exhaustive list of club projects and purposes. It gives instructions in the matter of club organization and management. It gives its readers a vision of club possibilities and a broad concept of the field. Price, \$2.50.

The School Club Program, by Harold D. Meyer. This is one of the newest books of this outstanding authority on extra curricular activities. It offers a wealth of suggestions for club organization and administration and gives its readers the benefit of the latest developments in that field. It gives those who have the responsibility of directing school clubs definite and practical help. Price, \$1.

MUSIC ACTIVITIES

The Everybody Sing Book, edited by Kenneth S. Clark. A teal American collection of songs for group singing in school, home and community. It includes a wealth of traditional favorites, hymns and carols, negro spirituals, close harmony numbers, old time popular songs, greetings, stunt songs, and glee club selections. It gives words and music for over 175 songs—all popular favorites. Price, 25c. Price per hundred, \$20.

all popular favorites. Price, 25c. Price per hundred, \$20.

The Golden Book of Favorite Songs. This is a popular and widely known song book. Its exceptional merit and low price make it suitable for schools of all kinds and for community singing. It contains a choice selection of popular songs for all ages and for every occasion. Price, 20c; per doz., \$1.80.

The Gray Book of Favorite Songs. This is a companion book to the Golden Book of Favorite Songs and it is gaining similar wide popularity. It is a collection of songs selected especially for arsembly singing. It contains popular hymns, negro spirituals, songs of early days, sea songs, stunt songs, rounds, songs f r special day, unison songs, and songs for male voices. Price, 20c: per doz., \$1.80.

ATHLETICS

Athletic Dances and Simple Clogs, by Marjorie Hillas and Marian Knighton. This is a book of simple athletic and clog cances for the modern boy and girl. These dances include something of the stunt quality, but with sufficient character for the dancer to acquire accuracy of movement, poise, control, and relaxation. It is illustrated with 42 photographic reproductions. Price, §2.

88 Successful Play Activities, a compilation of play activities recommended by the Playground and Recreation Association of America. It includes competitive events with handicraft articles, old time games, shows, exhibits, athletic activities, art activities, music activities, dramatic activities, and miscellaneous special activities. It has 128 pages in paper binding. Price, 60c.

Hendbook of Athletics for Coaches and Players, by Graham Bickley. This is a simple, readable, practical athletic handbook of a general nature. It is divided into four parts—baseball, track, basketball, and football. It gives sound and fundamental coaching instructions in each of these four major departments of school athletics. Price, \$1.80.

Intramural Athletics, by Elmer D. Mitchell. This book shows

Intramural Athletics, by Elmer D. Mitchell. This book shows how a system of athletics that will include large numbers of a student body can be introduced and carried on. It is the highly satisfactory result of the author's years of investigation and experience. It makes possible in every school benefits of athletics to those students who need them most. Price, \$2.

Intramural Athletics and Play Days, by Edgar M. Draper and George M. Smith. This is a handbook of intramural athletic activities. It gives a clear, concise view of the field, also definite ideas on organizing and directing an intramural program of athletics. It extends its treatment of intramural games and play days to include the interests of girls as well as boys. Price, \$1.

Price, \$1.

Play Days for Girls and Women, by Margaret M. Duncan and Velda P. Cundiff. This book was written to meet the demand for material on programs for days when girls from several schools come together to play with rather than against one another. This book has more than met that demand. It has done much to stimulate the movement. It is complete, clearly written and well illustrated. Price, \$1.60.

Practical Football, by Gny S. Lowman. This treatise on football represents the wide and successful experience of its author. It is a textbook in football. It stresses the fundamentals of the game and the best methods of teaching them. Many athletic directors of colleges as well as high schools regard this book as one of the very best available in its field. Price, \$3.

Recreative Athletics, prepared by the Playground and Recreation Association of America. This book contains more than two hundred pages printed in small type. It gives literally hundreds of practical suggestions for programs of recreative athletics, games, and sports. A most excellent and complete book. Price, \$1.

Recreational Games and Programs, by John A. Martin. This is a compilation of over two hundred games selected by the National Recreation Association. Some of the games are old ones. Many of them are new. All of them are worthy of a place among the best. All directions are given concisely but in sufficient detail to make direction of the games easy. Price, 50c.

SCHOOL DRAMATICS

Runnin' the Show, by Richard B. Whorf and Roger Wheeler. This is a book of instructions for the amateur stage director. It solves problems of scenery, stage lighting, and miscellaneous stage light and sound effects. It gives sixty illustrations and tells in an interesting and understandable manner the many things an amateur stage director should know. Price, \$1.

Time to Make Up, by Richard B. Whorf. In this book the author, who is an art director and actor, gives a clear description of every phase of the art of make-up. He tells what materials are necessary and describes the methods of using them to obtain any desired effect. The author's clear, concise style of writing and his many pen and ink sketches make this book simple and fascinating, as well as accurate and complete. Price, \$1.25.

SCHOOL PARTIES

SCHOOL PARTIES

400 Games for School, Home, and Playground, by Elizabeth Acker. This book is well known and a standby in most recreation circles. It gives more than four hundred games providing for every age, purpose, and occasion. It contains 320 pages and numerous illustrations. It describes every kind of game that schools could use. Price, \$1.50.

Games for Everybody, by May C. Hofmann. This book gives a lot of favorite games both new and old. It was intended for both children and grown-ups. Consequently it fits well into the recreational needs of secondary schools. It offers games for various purposes and to fit the seasons and special occasions. Contains over two hundred pages and some illustrations. Price, 75c.

Handy, by Lynn Rohrbough. This book has, in a very few years, become a standard manual of social recreation. It gives mixing games, active games, social games, mental games, dramatic stunts, social songs, and several chapters on recreation programs and leadership. It is published by the Church Recreation Service, but it is well suited to school use. Price of library edition, \$1.75; of the loose-leaf edition, \$2.50.

Handy II, by Lynn Rohrbough. This new Church Recreation Service book has promise of such wide popularity as its companion, Handy. The following section titles will give some idea of the contents of the book: Program Sources, Socializers, Games of Skill, Big Times in Small Places, Table Fun, Treasures from Abroad, Singing Games, Rhythmic Mixers, Quadrilles, Folk Songs. Price of loose-leaf edition, \$2.50.

SCHOOL PUBLICATIONS

Student Publications, by Geo. C. Wells and Wayde H. McCalister. The teachers and students in charge of school publications will find this a practical handbook. It is definite yet broad in its scope. Chapters are given to the school newspaper, the student handbook, the yearbook, the student magazine, and other publications. Price, \$1.

PROGRAMS AND ENTERTAINMENTS

Crazy Stunts, by Harlan Tarbell. This is a book written to satisfy the persistent demand for all kind of comical stunts. Most of the twenty-six stunts described have been derived from the author's experience on the stage. Yet this is a book for amateurs and one that schools can make good use of in designing programs of a light and humorous nature. Price, \$1.

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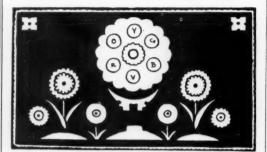
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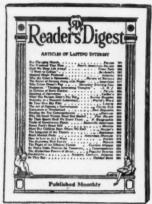
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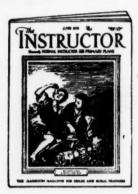
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